Claim Listing

The following listing of the claims replaces all previous claim listings in the present application:

Claims 1-31. (cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) A computerized method for managing taxonomic information to facilitate retrieval of information, comprising:

identifying a first name that specifies an organism;

determining if the first name corresponds to a name entry in a names table;

identifying a first taxonomic identifier of the name entry;

determining if the first taxonomic identifier is included in a classification entry in a classification table allowing taxa to be organized according to more than one classification, wherein each entry in the classification table associates the first taxonomic identifier with a classification identifier, a relationship attribute, and a second taxonomic identifier, and wherein the classification table is included in a database of classifications configured to accommodate alternative classifications and help determine a classification for the organism;

identifying the second taxonomic identifier of the classification entry; and

based on the second taxonomic identifier, identifying a second name.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32, further comprising:
based on the first name and the second name, deriving a search parameter.

Claims 34-37. (cancelled).

38. (Previously Presented). A computerized system for managing taxonomic information to facilitate retrieval of information, comprising:
a processor configured to operate on:

a name identifier component configured to identify a first name that specifies an organism,

a determiner component configured to determine if the first name corresponds to a name entry in a names table;

an identifier component configured to identify a first taxonomic ID of the name entry;

another determiner component configured to determine if the first taxonomic ID is included in a classification entry in a classification table, wherein each entry in the classification table associates the first taxonomic ID with a classification identifier, a relationship attribute, and a second taxonomic ID, and wherein the classification table is included in a database of classifications configured to accommodate alternative classifications and help determine a classification for the organism;

a second identifier component configured to identify the second taxonomic ID of the classification entry; and

a third identifier component configured to identify, based on the second taxonomic ID, a second name;

wherein said processor is configured to retrieve information based on at least said first name or said second name.

39. (Previously Presented). Computer software, residing on a computer-readable storage medium, comprising a set of instructions for use in a computer system to help cause the computer system to manage taxonomic information to facilitate retrieval of information, the set of instructions for causing the computer system to:

identify a first name that specifies an organism;

determine if the first name corresponds to a name entry in a names table;

identify a first taxonomic ID of the name entry;

determine that the first taxonomic ID is included in a classification entry in a classification table, wherein each entry in the classification table associates the first taxonomic ID with a classification identifier, a relationship attribute, and a second taxonomic ID, and wherein the classification table is included in a database of classifications configured to accommodate alternative classifications and help determine a classification for the organism;

identify the second taxonomic ID of the classification entry; and

identify, based on the second taxonomic ID, a second name.

40. (Previously Presented) A system for managing taxonomic information to facilitate retrieval of information, comprising:

a processor configured to operate on

a names table in which each entry associates a character string with a name identifier;

a taxon table in which each entry associates a name identifier with a taxon identifier;

a database of classifications that accommodates alternative classifications, the database including:

a reference table in which each entry associates a classification identifier with a taxon that represents the root of the classification; and

a classification table in which each entry associates a taxon identifier with a classification identifier, a relationship attribute, and a second taxon identifier;

a name identifier configured to identify a name that specifies an organism;

a determiner configured to use the name and the database of classifications to help determine a classification for the organism; and

an identifier configured to use the classification to help identify information associated with the organism.

41. (Previously Presented). A computerized method for managing taxonomic information to facilitate retrieval of information, comprising:

providing a database including:

a names table in which each entry associates a character string with a name identifier;

a taxon table in which each entry associates a name identifier with a taxon identifier; and

a database of classifications that accommodates alternative classifications, the database including:

a reference table in which each entry associates a classification identifier with a taxon that represents the root of the classification; and

a classification table in which each entry associates a taxon identifier with a classification identifier, a relationship attribute, and a second taxon identifier;

identifying a name that specifies an organism;

based on the name and the database of classifications, determining a classification for the organism; and

retrieving information based on at least the name.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the method further comprises:

based on the classification, identifying information associated with the organism.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the name is a polynomen.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the name is a modern name.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the name is a trinomen.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the name is a scientific name.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, the name is a non-scientific name.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:

receiving a request for information including the name; and

based on the request, selecting a database access layer to receive the request.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:

receiving a request for information including the name; and

directing the request to an application layer for serving client functions.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:

receiving a request for information including the name; and

directing the request to a data layer to determine a unique identifier associated with the organism.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
identifying a textual description associated with the organism.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
identifying an illustration associated with the organism.

53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
identifying a multimedia data object associated with the organism.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
identifying a data pointer associated with the organism.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
basing the identification of the information on a defined domain of information.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
determining a biological classification for the organism.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
determining a geographical classification for the organism.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
determining a non-biological classification for the organism.

59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 58, further comprising
identifying information associated with another organism that belongs to the classification.

60. (Previously Presented). A computerized method for managing taxonomic information to facilitate retrieval of information, comprising:
identifying a first name that specifies an organism;

associating a first taxon with the first name;

determining that the first taxon is included in a classification entry in a classification database, the classification database allowing taxa to be organized according to more than one classification wherein each entry in the classification database associates the first taxon with a classification identifier, a relationship attribute, and a second taxon, and wherein classifications database is configured to accommodate alternative classifications and help determine a classification for the organism; and

associating the second taxon with the classification entry.

61. (Withdrawn) A distributed system for managing taxonomic information to facilitate retrieval of information, comprising:

a server having a portion of a distributed database, and

a second server in communication with the server and having another portion of the distributed database;

each server comprising:

a name identifier configured to identify a first name that specifies an organism,

a determiner configured to determine if the first name corresponds to a name entry in a names table;

an identifier configured to identify a first taxonomic ID of the name entry;

another determiner configured to determine the first taxonomic ID is included in a classification entry in a classification table;

a second identifier configured to identify a second taxonomic ID of the classification entry; and

a third identifier configured to identify, based on the second taxonomic ID, a second name;

the server having authority to make changes to parts of the distributed database and the second server not having authority to make changes to the distributed database.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the name is a polynomen.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the name is a modern name.

64. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the name is a trinomen.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the name is a scientific name.

66. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 40, the name is a non-scientific name.

67. (Cancelled).

68. (Cancelled).

69. (Previously Presented). The method of claim 32, wherein the first name is a scientific name and the second name is a common name.

70. (Previously Presented). The method of claim 32,wherein the first name and the second name are scientific names and wherein the second name is a variant of the first name.

71. (Withdrawn) A distributed system for locating information resources related to biological organisms, the system comprising:

a processor configured to operate on

a set of client software for communicating with information management applications serving name identifiers associated with information identifiers;

a first determiner component to determine that a first name identifier is included within one or more classification entries in a classification table on a remote name server;

second determiner component to determine second name identifier is associated with the first name identifier within a names table on a remote name server; and

a set of service software for distributing name identifiers associated with the information identifiers;

wherein said processor is configured to retrieve information.